

~~TOP SECRET DINAR VENONA~~

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Some days ago an officer of the Statistical branch [OTDEL] of ARNOLD's [ARNOL'D][i] division [UPRAVLENIE] told POLO [POLO][ii] that his division has an informer among the Soviet employees in CARTHAGE [KARFAGEN][iii] who reports secret information of this sort on the air power of the USSR:

The USSR has twenty thousand combat aircraft of which ten thousand are used in operations, while the rest are kept in reserve. The American aircraft are not used in operations, [but][a] are kept in the Far East. The main problem of the USSR is not aircraft, but flying personnel.

We are taking steps to check the report and identify [USTANOVKA] the informant.

No.361

Reference number 1884. According to what GRANDPAPA [DEDUSHKA]<sup>[iv]</sup> said LISOVOJ was head of the Political Department [OTDEL] of DENIKIN's staff. Part of the archives consists of counter-intelligence materials of that period. Conditions for handing over the archives: we take the transport upon ourselves[C%.] [1 group garbled] we receive free of charge, except that LISOVOJ would like to make a trip to the Union. Incidentally he does not insist on the trip.

No.362.

[B% We have raised] with GRANDPAPA the question of appointing ALEKSEJ[v] in place of SHAH [ShAKh][vi] at the end of the summer and ARTEK[vii] in place of ALEKSEJ. We will advise the results.

No.363.

9th May

MAY[MAJ][viii]

Comments: [i] ARNOL'D: It is uncertain whether this is a covername or a real name. Note that this is a different person from the ARNOL'D (formerly FAKIR) mentioned in the

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- [vi] ShAKh: Konstantin Alekseevich CHABANOV.
- [vii] ARTEK: Leonid Dmitrievich ABRAMOV.
- [viii] MAJ: Stepan Zakharovich APRESYAN.